



# News Release

SOCIAL SECURITY

## **Statement of Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security, Commending the President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Request**

By requesting \$12.5 billion for Social Security's administrative expenses, an eight percent increase over the previous year, President Obama has again shown that he clearly understands the workload challenges we face. The additional funding is critical to our efforts to continue driving down the hearings backlog, something we were able to do in fiscal year 2009 for the first time in over a decade. This funding also will allow us to process an increasing number of retirement and disability claims, and improve our aging infrastructure.

For seventy-five years, Americans have depended on Social Security. We know that millions of Americans continue to count on us to provide them with the service they need and deserve. It is critical that Congress enact President Obama's budget proposal in a timely manner.

For more information about the President's 2011 budget request for Social Security, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/budget](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/budget).

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